

Physician MEMO

To | All Physicians and Allied Health Professionals

From | Jeff Lindsay, President, Forsyth Medical Center
Jo Haubenreiser, Vice President, Post Acute Services

Date | March 14, 2011

Re | Important information about our Winston-Salem long-term Care facilities

During the last few months, Novant Health has been in negotiations with Liberty Healthcare of Wilmington, N.C., regarding their purchase of The Oaks at Forsyth and for their management services of Springwood Care Center. During the next several weeks, we will be working toward finalizing the transition by the end of April this year.

We are very familiar with Liberty and their expertise in long-term patient care and management. In 2003, our Wesley Care Center in Charlotte joined the Liberty organization. We have observed them firsthand and know they're committed to providing high-quality care to patients.

When Novant first took over operations of Springwood Care from Forsyth County, and later built The Oaks in 1988, our goal was to provide a continuum of care for our patients through all stages of life. However, during the last few years, operating long-term care facilities has become complex, requiring significant support systems, information systems and expertise in this highly specialized segment of healthcare.

We recognize that any transition can be uncomfortable, but we are confident that this change will benefit patients and our communities moving forward. In addition, we know that The Oaks will be a welcome addition to Liberty's growing healthcare network across the state and that Springwood will greatly benefit from being operated and managed by the leadership team of Liberty Healthcare.

Employees at both facilities can be proud of the remarkable care they provide and of their commitment to the residents. They can also be proud of the innovative changes they have been part of, including a diversional activities program for Alzheimer's and dementia patients at Springwood, and a pet- and nature-inspired environment at The Oaks. In our discussions, Liberty has been impressed with the compassion and quality of our long-term care staff.

Please know that Novant and Liberty are committed to ensuring a smooth transition with no disruption to the care and services that our residents and families have come to expect. In this transition, the staff of both facilities will become employees of Liberty Healthcare.

During the next few weeks, Liberty will complete its review of the operational and financial aspects of Springwood and The Oaks. However, we did want to share this information with you at this time. We will continue to update you with more details.